Art Unit: 1731

1). The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance is that the cited prior art does not disclose an apparatus for conditioning a porous paper web, the apparatus includes a moving support having a web support surface, an air deflector, an orifice in flow communication with a cooling gas supply, a vacuum chamber associated with the support surface claimed, additionally including a moistening device comprising a plurality of steam nozzles adjacent to a surface of the web producing steam condensation on the web and within the web, and a entry jet box configured to direct a cooling gas over the web in a direction opposite to the moving direction of the web (claim 27).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone number is 571-272-1190.

M. Waller

Mark Halpern Primary Examiner Art Unit 1731 Page 2